

Message Text

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41

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 /089 W

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R 111400Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6508

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

UNCLAS SANA 2818

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, GW, YE

SUBJECT: EGON BAHR'S YEMEN VISITS

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: FRG MIN FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, EGON BAHR, AND ACCOMPANYING DELEGATION PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO YEMEN OCT 2 TO 5 1975 AT YARG' INVITATION. ALTHOUGH OCCASION OF VISIT WAS FORMAL DEDICATION OF GERMAN-PAVED SANA TO TAIZ HIGHWAY, BAHR ALSO HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH KEY OFFICIALS CONCERNING FUTURE THRUST OF GERMAN DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND PROPOSED NEW PROJECTS. AMONG OFFICIALS CONSULTED WERE COMMAND COUNCIL CHAIRMAN HAMDI, PRIMIN ABD AL-GHANI, AND MINDEVELOPMENT AND CENTRAL PLANNING HEAD IRYANI. END SUMMARY.

2. IN RECENT YEARS, GERMAN ASSISTANCE CHARACTERIZED BY LARGESCALE CAPITAL PROJECTS SUCH AS TAIZ ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT (DM 90 MILLION) AND CONSTRUCTION SANA AIRPORT, ALTHOUGH SMALL AGRICULTURAL PROJECT AND EXTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMS HAVE ALSO BEEN SUPPORTED.

3. IN FUTURE, FRG PLANS TO REDUCE CAPITAL VENTURES AND WILL EMPHASIZE A) INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND B) FURTHER MANPOWER TRAINING SCHEMES. AT SAME TIME, FRG WILL CONSIDER CO-FINANCING SOME OF MAJOR PROJECTS OF SECOND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM NOW BEING PLANNED WHICH
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MAY INVOLVE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT COMMITMENT.

4. AMONG AREAS BEING CONSIDERED FOR INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS ARE AL-BAWN PLAIN, SA'ADA AREA AND POSSIBLY THE JAWF REGION. TRAINING PROGRAM WILL INVOLVE BOTH SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDY IN GERMANY ITSELF AND AS WELL AS PROVISION OF INSTRUCTORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOCAL TRAINING INSTITUTIONS SUCH AS INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

5. TO FACILITATE CONTINUED COOPERATION AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS, LIAISON OFFICE FOR GTZ (DEUTSCHE GESELLSCHAFT FUR TECHNISCHE ZUSAMMENARBEIT) WILL BE OPENED IN SANA. INITIAL GTZ UNDERTAKING WILL BE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WADI SIHAM AREA.

6. COMMENT: BAHR'S VISIT TO YAR LEFT GOOD IMPRESSION ON YEMENIS WHO VIEW FRG AND CHINA (PRC) AS TWO MOST EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATORS OF LARGE-SCALE PROJECT AID AT PRESENT. VISIT CONTAINED NO SURPRISES HOWEVER, AND ANNOUNCED AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS IN AL-BAWN PLAIN AND SA'ADA AREA AND INTENSIFIED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM PROVISIONALLY AGREED UPON EARLIER THIS YEAR. INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY, WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLE PLANNING AND LIAISON WITH YARG. FRG'S SANA AGRICULTURAL TEAM ATTEMPTED INTRODUCE EXTENSION AND PLANT PROTECTION ACTIVITIES IN SA'ADA AREA ON RESIDENT BASIS 1974, BUT THESE EFFORTS LARGELY ABANDONED BY MID 1975 DUE TO LACK OF COOPERATION AND INTEREST ON PART OF BOTH LOCAL OFFICIALS AND MINAGRICULTURE PERSONNEL. END COMMENT.
SCOTES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANA02818
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750354-1143
From: SANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751059/aaaacavv.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 OCT 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 OCT 2003 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <04 FEB 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EGON BAHR'S YEMEN VISITS
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, GE, YE, (BAHR, EGON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006